

NEWS RELEASE



USDA Forest Service

Rocky Mountain Region

Pike & San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron & Comanche National Grasslands

Comanche National Grassland

www.fs.usda.gov/goto/psicc/com

Timpas Unit

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La Junta, CO 81050

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S. FOREST SERVICE TO BEGIN SPRING TOURS OF PICKET WIRE CANYONLANDS IN MAY

LA JUNTA, Colorado, March 30, 2016 – The U.S. Forest Service will offer guided tours into Picket Wire Canyonlands south of La Junta on the Comanche National Grassland. Spring tours begin Saturday, May 7th and run through June 25th, 2016. Tours take place on Saturdays during May and June.

These primitive canyons are home to the largest dinosaur track site in North America. Recently, “new” dinosaur trackways have been discovered along the Purgatoire River in Picket Wire Canyonlands. This dinosaur tracksite is a world renowned paleontological site dating to the Jurassic Period. Over 1,500 prints in 100 separate trackways can be viewed during the tour.

Guided auto tours are the easiest way to visit Picket Wire Canyonlands and learn about its rich, colorful past. During the tour, knowledgeable guides show visitors difficult to find dinosaur tracks and point out interesting prehistoric, historic and natural features of the canyons.

All day tours (8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) are offered on Saturdays in May, June, September and October for a fee. Due to rough roads, visitors will need their own four-wheel drive vehicle. To make reservations go to: www.recreation.gov or call 877-444-6777.

For additional information about Picket Wire Canyonlands and the Comanche National Grassland, call the U.S. Forest Service at 719-384-2181, follow us on Facebook, Twitter (PSICC_NF), or visit the web site at: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/psicc/com

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Photo Courtesy of National Geographic